

July 29, 2005

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Public Notice: Commission Invites Comments Concerning Use of
Portions of Returned 2 GHz Mobile Satellite Service Frequencies.**

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to the June 29, 2005, Public Notice published in the above entitled docket, Alcatel hereby submits these comments in support of the proposal of ICO Satellite Services ("ICO") and TMI Communications and Company Limited Partnership ("TMI") to divide one-third of the remaining 2 GHz Mobile Satellite Service ("MSS") spectrum between these two service providers. Alcatel is a global leader in the satellite manufacturing and services market and is advocating this reallocation plan to further strengthen the scope and breadth of MSS services offered in the United States.

By reallocating this spectrum to ICO and TMI, the Commission will be promoting the public interest, convenience, and necessity, pursuant to Section 316 of the Communications Act, by creating a more viable competitor to terrestrial wireless providers, benefiting the public safety community, and expanding services to rural and other traditionally underserved areas. First, the additional spectrum will expand the scope and depth of services in the MSS market to provide a competitive alternative to terrestrially-based commercial wireless providers. Such competition will have a beneficial impact to consumers in both the MSS and terrestrially-based services markets. Second, the ubiquity of this satellite-based service, combined with ancillary terrestrial components, will provide public safety with an invaluable resource in the time of an emergency. MSS services can be used as substitutes and/or complements to terrestrial-based services, and public safety will benefit from two strong MSS providers with sufficient spectrum to provide a wide range of services. Third, the ubiquity of this service will also benefit consumers in rural and other traditionally-underserved areas, which may be inadequately served by both terrestrial wireless and wireline services. A robust MSS service will not only provide an additional means for consumers but will also provide needed competition in these areas.

Alcatel greatly appreciates the Commission's leadership in the mobile satellite service industry and looks forward to working with Commission and other interested parties in this process. Please let me know if there is any further information or comment that Alcatel can provide.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Olivier Badard
Vice President
North America

